# MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD

# **MEETING MINUTES**

**July 10, 2001** 

# \*\*\* APPROVED - September 21, 2001 \*\*\*

#### **Members Present:**

James A. Fink, Chair Ferne Farber Shirley Mann Gray The Honorable Richard Halloran Michelle Hayes Catherine Lucas The Honorable Edward Sosnick

#### **Staff Present:**

Debi Cain, Executive Director Michelle Bynum Sandy Cory Carol Hackett Garagiola Sarah Heuser Julie Lyons Carri Phillips Karen Porter

#### **Guests:**

Jim Beougher, CFS Director Margaret Flanagan, Attorney General's Office Kathy Hagenian, MCADSV Larry Hermen, Centerboard Associates Mary Keefe, MCADSV Amy Ronayne Krause, Attorney General's Office Gwyn VanDevender, Human Development Comm.

#### Welcome and Introductions

The July 10, 2001, Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB) meeting at the Lake Pointe Manor Banquet and Conference Center, Howell, MI, convened at 10:45 a.m. Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

#### **BOARD CONSENT**

Review of agenda and approval of April 3, 2001 and May 9, 2001 board meeting minutes.

MOTION: C. Lucas moved to approve the July 10, 2001 agenda and meeting minutes from April 3, 2001 and May 9, 2001. Seconded by R. Halloran. Motion carried.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

#### **Executive Limitation Policies: Treatment of Consumers**

Discussion was held on the Treatment of Consumers policy. After review with L. Hermen, Board Consultant, F. Farber recommended that the policy be eliminated as not being applicable. The policy is a repetition of Ends Statement "A". Discussion ensued. D. Cain suggested contacting Don Monta of FIA regarding FOIA policy as it relates to the board and consumers.

MOTION: Moved by F. Farber to delete the Treatment of Consumers policy. Seconded by R. Halloran. Motion carried.

#### **Executive Limitation Policies: Financial Condition Language**

The financial condition policy language has been moved to the retreat agenda. Prior to the retreat, the Governance Committee will review the current Financial Condition language. They will make their recommendations available at the board retreat.

#### **Legislative Updates**

K. Hagenian reported that Senator Johnson has introduced legislation to pave the way for the state to pay for sexual assault forensic exams regardless of whether or not a police report has been made and regardless of whether or not the victim has insurance. K. Hagenian spoke of concerns arising from the Department of Community Health regarding payment and billing insurers. It was suggested that DCH and FIA meet to form a mutual resolution on this legislation.

Regarding the rebuttable presumption bills, a hearing was held for testimony only. Issues from judges were addressed. B. Kordenbrock will again be approached by the board regarding an official FIA position on these bills.

K. Hagenian reported on budget issues. The \$1.5 M rape prevention services money was to remain. No additional domestic violence monies will be available this year. The Department of Community Health was awarded \$200,000 new federal money for the nurse examiners programs for sexual assault and domestic violence. The money would pay for advocacy, training, and coordination of a nurse examiner program.

Two bills were flagged for the board: House Bill 4765 regarding hearsay and House Bill 4664. HB 4664 was introduced to presume joint custody in all custody cases. The MCADSV is very concerned that this bill is counterproductive to the rebuttable presumption bills.

#### Meeting with Doug Howard and Jim Beougher

J. Fink reported that the meeting with D. Howard and J. Beougher has been rescheduled to Monday, July 16. A report will be presented to the board prior to or during the next meeting.

#### **Draft Letter to Doug Howard**

- J. Fink reviewed the draft memo to D. Howard regarding eliminating punitive consequences for battered women. D. Cain presented an update on a recent domestic violence case, which prompted the board to put their position in writing. J. Beougher was thanked for his willingness and tremendous work in moving the case along and continuing to explore ways to assure the safety of children. J. Beougher pointed out three results from this case:
- The FIA Child Welfare Institute will use the case information to train all protective services workers.
- 2. FIA Child Protective Services staff and D. Cain will meet with the county involved to form policy changes.
- 3. FIA will work towards bringing the case involved to as good of an end as can be expected. Discussion ensued.
- J. Fink offered the experience and expertise of the board to assist FIA protective services workers and local community domestic violence workers in bridging the gap and bringing about positive changes.
- D. Cain reported that the Governor's Children's Justice Task Force has set up a sub-committee to look at how to monitor and assure that policies and protocols are being implemented. The group is due to meet again in August.

#### **Parking Lot Issues**

J. Fink suggested moving the parking lot issues to the September agenda.

#### MONITORING TO ASSURE ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE

#### The Governance Process: Board Members Code of Conduct

- J. Fink led the discussion on the Board Code of Conduct. The June/July board meeting has previously been designated as a time when the board commits itself and its members to ethical and businesslike conduct. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as board members. The record will show:
  - J. Fink as having no conflicts.
  - E. Sosnick is Chair of the Oakland County Coordinating Council. E. Sosnick has no direct conflicts.
  - C. Lucas is a former shelter director and will abstain from any votes concerning that shelter's funding. She has no other conflicts.
  - S. Mann Gray as having no conflicts.
  - R. Halloran is a faculty member of the Michigan Judicial Institute (MJI). He will refrain from MJI funding votes and will abstain from voting on any "MARK" issues. R. Halloran has no other conflicts.

M. Hayes as having no conflicts.

F. Farber is a former shelter director and will abstain from any votes concerning that shelter's funding. She has no other conflicts.

There was no feedback from staff or guests present.

## The Governance Process: Annual Board Planning Cycle and Draft Report Schedule

D. Cain reported on the Matrix schedule. Treatment of Consumers will be deleted. The four additional Executive Limitations (Assurance of Quality, State Policy Leadership, Communication and Counsel of the Board, and Contracting Process) and Ends review were added.

A discussion ensued regarding when to review Ends Statements - at the annual retreat or as a cluster throughout the yearly board meetings. L. Hermen suggested to routinely review the Ends Statements throughout the year by focusing on a single End issue allowing the board to understand where they are going. This item will be added to the retreat agenda.

MOTION: Made by R. Halloran to adopt the revised Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board Matrix schedule as presented at the July 10, 2001 board meeting. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

D. Cain reported on the following board policies:

#### **Executive Limitation Policies: Asset Protection**

Under Executive Response #2, "to create a clear, credible public image of MDVPTB and our mission", our official logo and letterhead will soon be released. The MDVPTB *Report to Michigan* is in progress and will cover a period of 18 months to two years. The report will cover: MDVPTB board members, legislation stipulations, major initiatives with STOP partners, Homicide Prevention Task Force update, mission statement, etc. Thank you to K. Smith and the Office of Communications for their support during this entire process.

#### **Executive Limitation Policies: Emergency Executive Director Succession**

Attention was called to the fact that signatory and supervisory responsibilities for the Executive Director are dictated through the FIA policy structure.

#### **Executive Limitation Policies: General Executive Director Constraint**

The General Executive Director Constraints need to be updated (deleting the consumer portion) and does not include the four new limitations. D. Cain will match the constraints with today's accepted motions for formal approval in September.

MOTION: Made by R. Halloran to accept the Executive Director's reports on Asset Protection, Emergency Executive Director Succession, and General Executive Director Constraint. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

#### Jane White Report

This report is a follow up to Dr. White coming from MSU and meeting with MDVTPB staff. The report lists areas needing to be addressed. During Dr. White's follow up February meeting, staff felt progress has been made towards addressing the staff morale and the clarity of direction and goals.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON ENDS DEVELOPMENT - WORK TO DATE

#### **Governor's Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Task Force Update**

C. Lucas reviewed her piece on matching MDVPTB Carver Ends Work with the Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Task Force recommendations. The majority of the task force recommendations matched up with the board's systems response issues and emphasis on community education/advocacy. The matching piece clearly demonstrated that the board is working within their Ends Statements.

D. Cain reported on which of the areas the board is directly and indirectly responsible. Written reports will be provided to the Lt. Governor's office on the progress of each goal. The nine assigned initiatives are:

- 1. Coordinate public awareness, education and prevention campaign. Develop and disseminate "tool kits" for local communities.
- 2. Develop a state website.
- 3. Implement domestic violence prevention and awareness curricula to promote non-controlling, non-violent behavior for students.
- 4. Develop a recommended plan to oversee and monitor batterer intervention programs.
- 5. Develop model domestic violence protocols and resource guide for professionals responding to domestic violence.
- 6. Coordinate and streamline domestic violence funding and monitoring.
- 7. Creation of state and local death review teams for domestic violence homicides.
- 8. Coordinate and develop a domestic violence response resource guide for emergency room physicians and nurses.
- 9. Convene a multidisciplinary workgroup to study and make recommendations regarding Michigan's medical reporting law.
- C. Lucas suggested the board may want to include language under the "Challenges to Social Service and Medical Providers" portion about increasing availability of culturally sensitive services to non-English speaking minorities, physically challenged, and under served populations; and continuing to provide leadership and support for local coordinated community councils.

D. Cain is anticipating that by early fall the first conversations will begin to occur with key legislators. Strong support of this package is anticipated. She hopes to be working closely with the State Court Administrator's Office and the Supreme Court regarding the potential for new or revised court rules.

Development of a standardized Domestic Violence Report Form for Law Enforcement has been assigned to the Michigan State Police with the assistance of PAAM and the MDVPTB. The MDVPTB will be sitting at the table during discussions on standardizing data collection and compilation.

D. Cain and staff are very committed to these areas and recommendations, and believe they will make a big difference in the domestic violence field.

#### **Work Updates**

#### Funding updates:

- There was a conference call two weeks ago with STOP grant administrators across the state.
  The 18% cut will stand for FY 2002; MDVPTB will absorb the \$774,000 cut for the coming
  fiscal year. In October 2002, it is hoped that some of the 18% STOP money will be restored,
  but it probably will never be fully restored. The majority of VAWA money is for our direct
  service provision, and the commitment of the MDVPTB is to effect that the least amount
  possible.
- 2. The Family Violence Prevention Services (FVPS) money which goes directly to domestic violence shelters took a \$77,000 cut this coming year. However, FIA is absorbing into their block grant money some the MDVPTB staff salaries, allowing us to keep from passing the FVPS cuts to domestic violence programs.
- 3. C. Hackett Garagiola gave an update on the Pro Bono Project for the State Bar. The State Bar held a program training attorneys to handle civil domestic violence cases. There was a Lansing-based panel of state experts who presented morning satellite broadcasts to several locations and afternoon local panels of people to speak about local resources. A summary from the State Bar will be available to the board as to the number of those trained and the outcomes.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- M. Keefe and K. Hagenian recognized the board with an award for their support of the MCADSV. The award was presented at the Apple Blossom dinner during the Women of Color Conference.
- M. Flanaghan reported that the board will receive a letter from Attorney General Jennifer Granholm offering the support of the Attorney General's Office and outside resources to assist the board with the Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force Recommendations. (Suggested resources include assistance with legal research, assistance from prosecutors, web sites/link, and mentoring program.)

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

There was no process evaluation.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm

MOTION: Made by R. Halloran to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.

# **Future Meeting Dates**

The next MDVPTB meeting will be held on Friday, September 21, 2001.

Future meeting dates: TBD

Documents referenced in these minutes may be obtained from Sandy Cory, MDVPTB. She can be reached at (517) 335-6388.

The **WEBPAGE** for the MDVPTB is located at: http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/CFSAdmin/dv/domestic\_violence.html

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Cory